

A dyed-in-the-wool Republican his whole life, Chris left an indelible mark on the Pueblo community as a city councilman. As an at-large council member, Weaver was widely acclaimed for his leadership and vision on a wide range of issues, including HARP, the Pueblo Convention Center, and increased benefits for retired firemen. In his time on the council, Chris served with great distinction leaving a lasting legacy that will long benefit Pueblo.

At age 6, Chris moved to Pueblo with his parents, the late Dr. John Weaver and his wife Frances, from Concordia, Kansas. Following his graduation from Centennial High School in 1966, Chris studied briefly at the Colorado School of Mines and later transferred to the University of Southern Colorado where he graduated in 1982.

A certified public accountant, Chris was an active member in the Kiwanis Club, the Private Industry Council, and the National Association of Accountants.

I am hopeful that Chris' family—including his wife Mary, his children Andrew, Donald, and Jennifer, his mother Frances, and his siblings Ross, Matthew and Allison Swift—will all find solace in the remarkable life that he led. Indeed, like myself and the many others that counted him a friend, Chris' family should find peace in the knowledge each is a better person for having known him.

THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Emergency Food Assistance Enhancement Act of 1999. My bill increases TEFAP commodity purchases from \$100 million to \$125 million in an attempt to help food banks meet the needs of their communities.

It is unfortunate, Mr. Speaker, that there is a need for food banks. Even though our farmers and ranchers are the most productive and efficient in the world, the need for food banks continues. Food banks often meet the needs of their communities by managing donations from the Government and the private sector. Most Government donations are the product of the Emergency Food Assistance Program. It is a unique program that has the ability to provide nutritious domestic agriculture products to needy Americans while at the same time providing support to the agriculture community. In the welfare reform bill, Congress made TEFAP commodity purchases mandatory because of the integral role this program has in the provisions of food assistance to needy families.

This program is a quick fix, something to get families through tough times. It gives them the support they need, but it doesn't ensnare them into a cycle of dependency for which other Federal assistance programs are infamous. TEFAP purchases also provide much needed support to the agriculture community. While other food assistance programs are much larger, TEFAP has a more direct impact for agriculture producers, while at the same time providing food for those in need.

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 included hundreds of millions of dollars for Employment

and Training Program aimed at those able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) whose eligibility for the Food Stamp Program was restricted by a work requirement in the Welfare Reform Act of 1996. The money is dedicated to training programs that keep any ABAWD on the food stamp rolls if they participate. Several hearings and reports have said that the money is going unspent because very few are taking advantage of the programs. At the same time, food banks are reporting an increase in demand from the same demographic group.

Why not put the money where the need is? Annually the Secretary reviews the States employment and training programs and allocates the money he considers appropriate and equitable. If a State doesn't use the money allocated to them, the Secretary can reallocate the money to another State. My bill does nothing to change or restrict that authority. My bill simply allows the Secretary of Agriculture to spend up to \$25 million of unobligated employment and training money on TEFAP commodity purchases.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that the Emergency Food Assistance Enhancement Act will enjoy resounding and rapid support from the full House of Representatives. It is important that we increase commodity purchases for this important program.

TRIBUTE TO MS. JILL COCHRAN

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I want to join Chairman STUMP and Ranking Member EVANS in acknowledging and saying thank you to Ms. Jill Cochran, long-time Democratic staff director for the Subcommittee on Benefits, who will retire next month following 25 years of dedicated service to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Jill's contributions to the enactment of legislation such as the Montgomery GI bill, on which she worked with our distinguished former chairman for 7 years, vocational rehabilitation, veterans employment and training, homeless veterans, and transition assistance issues—just to name a few—I believe, are unsurpassed.

Jill personifies unselfish public service in her commitment to America's sons and Daughters who have served our Nation. We'll miss her compassion, her great spirit of cooperation, her expertise, and most of all—her exceptional leadership.

Jill, our kindest wishes and godspeed.

IN HONOR OF JOHN A. KAY

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and memory of a great American, Mr. John Kay. John was a constituent of mine from Rio Rancho, NM, who passed away in October. He was a personal friend and a strong advocate for vet-

erans, John had a very distinguished career, having retired from both the U.S. Army and the Central Intelligence Agency. He loved our country and was very proud to have dedicated his life to serving it.

During his military service, John served with distinction in WWII and in the Korean conflict. In recalling his own military career, he was very proud of his service during WWII where he served with the infamous 9th Reconnaissance troop of the 9th Infantry Division. A unit that fought courageously in virtually every major campaign of the European theater.

What made John so special was his open hearted and generous nature. After his retirement from the CIA, he dedicated himself to informing his fellow veterans about the issues important to them. Specifically, he was the author of a monthly column in a local newspaper dedicated to helping veterans.

Mr. Speaker, John Kay was a true gentleman who constantly searched for new proposals and reforms in an attempt to help his community. He was always open minded and he was always generous in his assistance to others. He will be sorely missed by myself and by his community.

ADLER PLANETARIUM AND THE MARS MILLENNIUM PROJECT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to recognize one of Chicago's premier institutions, the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum, as they kick-off their contribution to the Mars Millennium Project and celebrate the grand reopening of their landmark building on October 1st.

Located on Chicago's beautiful lakefront, the Adler was founded in 1930 by Max Adler "to be the foremost institution for the interpretation of the exploration of the Universe to the broadest possible audience." To help fulfill this mission, the Adler has become actively involved in the Mars Millennium Project using its StarRider™ Theater Mars Millennium Show as the centerpiece of their contribution.

The Mars Millennium Project is an official White House Millennium Council Youth Initiative, challenging students across the nation to design a community yet-to-be-imagined—for the planet Mars. This national arts, sciences and technology education initiative is guided by the U.S. Department of Education, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and its Jet Propulsion Lab, the National Endowment for the Arts, the J. Paul Getty and others.

The world's first StarRider™ Theater is a 3D interactive virtual reality experience, which will transport visitors on a voyage to Mars and allows the audience to participate in developing a viable Martian colony. The audience flies over Mars, picks a place for their colony and then designs the architecture, cultural icons and symbols that will make the colony unique.

The Adler is working with the Illinois State Board of Education and the Chicago Public Schools Teachers Academy for Professional Development to involve classrooms from across Illinois in the Mars Millennium Project.